(SRI G. NARAYANA GOWDA.)

ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈ ಬೋರ್ತಾ ಸೂಚನೆಯು ಮೂಲ ಉದ್ದೇಶ ಮುಳಬಾಗಿಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ಡಿಸ್ಪೆನ್ಸರಿಯನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಬೇಕಾದುದು ಅಗತ್ಯವೆಂದು ಒತ್ತಾಯ ಬಂದಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಅಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಜದ ಕಟ್ಟಡದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಇದನ್ನು ಬೇಗ ತೆರೆಯ ಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕೋರುತ್ತೇನೆ.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Cut motion moved:

"That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100."

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—Sir, Government is awaiting the resolution of the Mahila Samaj. As soon as the resolution is received, action will be taken to see that the maternity section is started.

Sri G. NARAYANA GOWDA.—On the 24th of last month or so it has been sent.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—We have not yet received. As soon as it is received, action will be taken to start a maternity ward.

Sri G. NARAYANA GOWDA.—I seek the leave of the House to withdraw the cut motion.

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,10,12,000 be granted to the Government to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March 1955, in respect of 'Medical'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The House will now adjourn for lunch and reassemble at 3-30 P.M.

The House adjourned for Lunch at Three of the Clock and reassembled at Thirty Minutes past Three of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair.]

DEMAND No. 20.—PUBLIC HEALTH

39. Public Health.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 42,29,000 be granted to the Government to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March 1955, in respect of 'Public Health'."

Sri Srinivasa Iyengar may select any one of his cut motions.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—I would rather select Sl. No. 66.

Merging Health Units in Local Fund Dispensaries.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR (T.-Narsipur).—Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head '39. Public Health' for Rs. 42,29,000 be reduced by Rs. 100 (in order to raise a debate on the subject of merging Health Units with Local Fund Dispensaries in the State)."

Sir, at present we have about 345 local fund dispensaries in the State. Even though the amount that has been allotted for the hospitals and dispensaries is about 78 lakhs, the L. F. dispensaries are being run with a provision of about 13·8 lakhs, and the rest of this grant is being spent on hospitals in urban parts. Sir, I am not suggesting for a moment that you should not spend moneys in cities. But what I am suggesting is that if it is inevitable to run these L. F. dispensaries in the way in which they are being run at present, it is much better for the Government to merge them with the Health Units. Public Health Units are doing yeomen service in the State of Mysore. The Health Department is doing it on an organised basis. The health of a man can very well be likened to that of a machine. Sir, if a machine is manufactured, the method of manufacture, maintenance, service, repairs—these are the things that go a long way to determine the life of the machine. Sir, just as in the case of a machine where we should see that it is properly manufactured, it is equally important for us to see that the parent who gives birth to a child gets proper education in health matters.

I was just talking about this subject with the Director of Public Health and he was kind enough to give me a copy of the article he has written and which is about to be published. Sir, as I said it is very important to see that the parent is well educated about the care and maintenance of the human body. Secondly, Sir, after a machine comes out of the manufacturing plant, its maintenance and care is most important. The driver should know how to drive the vehicle and how to maintain the vehicle. We should also know that with proper maintenance. he can prolong the life of the machine. Similarly, once a man takes his birth, he should know how to live. For all his misdeeds, the State should not contribute any money to restore his health. On the other hand, he should be made to know how to live. It is very important.

As timely servicing extends the life of a machine, periodical check-ups extend the life of a human body. Perhaps these check-ups are very common in countries outside India and a few months back, I read that Srimathi Vijayalakshmi Pandit entered a clinic for a general check-up in U.S.A. They maintain such perfect health with check-ups at various stages of life. But so far as we in India are concerned, this kind of a check-up in health is entirely a foreign term particularly in Mysore State. It is very necessary to see that the man checks himself up with his health and with his maintenance and gets proper instruction lead a healthy and clean life.

The next thing, Sir, is repairs. Just as a machine gets into a workshop, well, a man gets into the hospital or a dispensary for necessary repairs. What is done by way of repairing the human body refers to the clinical aspect. But the preventive side of it has been absolutely ignored—perhaps I can put it like that. We have made a little start and our progress is slow. Should we maintain these 345 dispensaries in such a bad state of affairs and still continue to spend the money on them ? Now, Sir, I learn that the Public Health Department have drawn up a programme. They have at present primary Health Unit for an area covering a radius of about five miles. If this principle is accepted, possibly we can manage the entire State with about 600 Health Units ; and we are already having about 345 L. F. Dispensaries and 170 Health Units. These two together come up to 515. With the introduction of 50 or 60 more centres, we can render yeoman service by extending these services all over the State. The stock of medicines supplied to these L. F. Dispensaries is very meagre. We have an allotment of Rs. 18 lakhs for the purchase of hospital necessaries, the Head of the Medical Stores and the Director of Medical Services making these purchases, but the L. F. Dispensaries actually get very very small quantity, with the result very often even mixture like carminative, etc., will not be available not to say anything about the sulfa drugs. That being the case, I believe the Government should pay some particular attention to see that Health Services are properly reorganised in the State. I will just compare a Health Unit with that of a L. F. Dispensary. A Health Unit in a village has a doctor, a midwife, Health Inspectors and a number of other technical assistants to take this medical help to the doors of the villagers. Sir, the doctor is expected to visit villages in the morning for three days in a week and the rest of the days he spends in the hospital. These three days he will arrange, within his jurisdiction, visits to clinic centres where he gives medical advice and guidance to the people. In this way he comes in contact with the rural men. He lives there and he would be actually seeing the difficulties of the rural folk and he can give direction as to how to keep healthy and also he will attend to the curative work. But in the L. F. Dispensaries the so-called doctors will not be available in the hospitals in the mornings as they will be very busy with their private practice. It is true the law says that the Assistant Surgeon in the L. F. Dispensary may attend to his private practice after his hospital hour. But, how many doctors do this ? They merely complain that their scale of pay

(SRI S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.)

is low, their starting pay of Rs. 75 is not enough to make both ends meet. When doctors do not care to be present in the hospitals, drugs are not supplied to hospitals in sufficient quantities, proper clothes not being supplied, why should we spend 1.1 crore for the medical services in the State ? I will take up the case of a Health Unit. In the Health Unit, you have got plenty of medicine ; work is done on the preventive side of it ; proper attention is bestowed on the curative side of it, and you have got men to attend to the needy : everything is there. Therefore, Sir, instead of having the Medical Department and the Public Health Department, it is best that we merge these two departments and call it as Public Health Services. Whatever you spend in the Medical Department may be spent in the Health Department and see that the much needed medical relief reaches the common man. With the present allotment of 13·8 lakhs for the 345 dispensaries you will not be spending even two annas nine pies per annum per head of the rural population towards medical care. Is the Government satisfied ? How is it that the Government have not taken into their mind the achievements of the Health Units and their usefulness to the villagers ? Therefore, I suggest that the Local Fund Dispensaries now existing in various taluks be merged in to the Health Units. That will certainly help the people, and that will enable the Government to make a little progress in this direction. In certain places where there is Local Fund Dispensary and a Health Unit, in such places the dispensary merges with the health unit. They have conducted that experiment and people say that this is helping them greatly. After all what is it that the Health Department does ? The Health Department lives with the people, the doctor visits the house of the farmer, the nurses meet the expectant mothers and all the latest possible medicines are made available. Malaria control has been specialised. Sanitation is looked upon by the Health Inspector. What more do you want in the Health Services ? You have everything in the Health Services. Therefore, it is best that the Government take it into their mind to see that these L.F. Dispensaries are abolished and merged with the Health Units and that the Medical Department and the Health Department are combined and styled as 'Public Health Services'. That is all, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—Cut motion moved :

> "That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100."

Sri T. CHANNIAH (Minister for Public Health and Local Self-Government).—Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sri Srinivasa Iyengar has strongly urged that the L. F. Dispensaries should be merged with the Health Units. This is not a new suggestion. In 60 places in malnad, the Public Health Department has taken over 60 L.F. Dispensaries and have converted them into Health Units. Government, having considered that there must be co-ordination between the Health Units and the L.F. Dispensaries long back, converted these Dispensaries into Health Units. In the Districts of Shimoga, Hassan and Chikmagalur this has been done. These dispensaries continue to function as curative centres. Emphasis is laid on the preventive side also. This is possible and necessary in malnad parts ; but in maidan places where the effect of malaria is not so much felt but where health units are found necessary, it is difficult to merge these L. F. Dispensaries with the Health Units.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—Is it the opinion of the Minister that the maidan people are not in need of health services ?

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—Not D.D.T. spraying

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—In maidan also we have mosquitoes.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—Yes ; in maidan parts also there are such places. In such places I have no objection to merge the L.F. Dispensaries with the Health Units. But, merging of all L.F. Dispensaries in all places with Health Units is a matter on which opinions differ and cannot be generally agreed to.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—What is your objection I want to know.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—There is no objection; the personnel serving in the Medical Department also feel that the two departments of Medical and Public Health should work separately for not only administrative reasons but also in the best interests of the public. In the Medical Department the doctors will have specialised in Surgery and other aspects on the curative side.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—Nothing prevents the Government to provide experts in surgery and other subjects in the Public Health Services. That should not come in the way of giving relief to the people.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—Sir, the impression is that once a person specialised in a particular branch is taken over to the Health Department, he feels that he forgets the knowledge he has acquired, as the nature of work in the Public Health Department is entirely of a different type. This is one of the reasons why most of the doctors that work in the Medical Department are reluctant to go over to the Public Health Department. The public have a good opinion of the Medical Department.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—How do you elicit the opinion of the public as regards the popularity of the Department?

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—We hear from the public by coming in contact with the public. At present there are more than 6,000 beds in all the major hospitals in Bangalore, Mysore and K.G.F. and in the taluk and district headquarter hospitals. The number of in-patients in all these hospitals comes to about one lakh fifty thousand and the number of out-patients that come to these L.F. Dispensaries for treatment is about 17 lakhs. This clearly shows, when compared with the figures of 1949, there is considerable increase in the number of in-patients as well as out-patients.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—It suggests failure on the part of Government in taking preventive measures. Because preventive measure is not taken, curative side has increased.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—Preventive measures have also been taken. The Director of Public Health is also of opinion that if the Medical Department is merged with the Public Health Department, they can very well administer both the Departments. But those who are working in the Medical Department will not have much time at their disposal to attend to preventive work, while the Public Health Department people feel that as they come in contact with the general public most intimately they can turn out more useful work on the preventive side. Public Health Departmental activities have been responsible to minimise the havoc wrought by malaria and have checked other diseases like plague, etc. They have undertaken B.C.G. vaccination work in 25 taluks and 2 cities.

4 P.M

They intend extending the B. C. G. campaign to other places. Of course on the preventive side they have been able to check some of the diseases. But the Medical Department feels that if that Department is merged with the Public Health Department.....

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—Will the Heavens fall?

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—All the special knowledge that they have obtained may in course of time.....

Sri B. RACHAIAH (Yelandur-Scheduled Castes).—The expert knowledge of the medical officer can very well be made use of.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—The cut motion raises a different issue. The point here is, only the L.F. Dispensaries should be merged with the Health Units.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—That is the thin end of the wedge.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—But he has raised a specific point. There is no difference of opinion about that. The Government feel that the time is not opportune to merge the Medical Department with the P.H. Department. We had a meeting of the Superintendents of certain major hospitals, private medical practitioners, the Director of Medical Services and the Director of Public Health to consider this question

(SRI T. CHANNIAH.)

of amalgamation of both the departments. All the members of the committee except two feel that it is not possible to amalgamate these two departments.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—One information, Sir. In that committee, how many belonged to the Public Health Department and how many to the Medical Department ?

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—The Director of Medical Services is strongly of the opinion that it should not be merged and the Director of Public Health feels that the Medical Department should be merged with his Department, and that the Director should be the administrative head. The Director of Medical Services differs from him. He wants that it should be kept separate and a person who is specialised in surgery should be the head of the department. Government consider that the *status quo* may continue for the present and the question of merging these two departments may be considered at the proper time. But now we think that the question of merger need not be taken up.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—This is the proper time.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—I have already said that Government have decided to continue the present arrangement lest it may give rise to ill-feeling.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—One information. We are not concerned with the ill-feeling that may arise between the two departments. We are concerned with the good of the common man. We represent the people. We want it to be merged. We urge upon the Government to consider the question of merging the L.F. Dispensary with the Public Health Department. On that subject I do not see why the Government should differ from us.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—He is concerned about the administrative convenience, not with the difference of opinion. They might feel that in the interest of smooth running of the Medical and Public Health Departments they should remain each separately and that *status quo* should prevail.

A MEMBER.—Is he expressing the opinion of the Government ?

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—The opinion of the Government is that having regard to the present state of affairs in the two departments the *status quo* might continue for the present.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—And the people allowed to suffer ? You plead your inability ?

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—Not inability, but in the interest of the smooth administration of the two departments

. .....

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—But what is the view of the public ?

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—But we are not eliciting the view of the public on all matters.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—I do not think this is a matter in which the Government can consult the country.

Sri B. T. KEMPA RAJ.—What is the opinion of the public ?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—You represent the public.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—Anyhow the Government feel so. If the entire House feels that both departments should be merged, we will consider that point also.

Sri S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.— I press the cut motion. Even though I may be the only one to give the vote, it does not matter I will press the cut motion.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—The question is:

"That the demand be reduced by Rs. 100."

The cut motion was negatived.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—The cut motion is negatived. The mover of the cut motion himself did not say 'aye'.

Need to start Health Units in Kolar District.

Sri G. NARAYANA GOWDA (Mulbagal—Srinivasapur).—Sir, I beg to move :

"That the demand under the head '39. Public Health' for Rs. 42,29,000 be reduced by Rs. 100 (to draw the attention